

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/NZ2004/000069

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. Cl. ?: A61F 2/44 2/30		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI and keywords: disc and spinal and fluid and similar terms.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2000/035382 A1 (DIMSO) 22 June 2000 Page 3 line 17 to page 6 line 27	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
Y		
X	US 6527804 B1 (GAUCHET et al.) 4 March 2003 Column 3 line 22 to column 4 line 5	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
Y		
X	US 5002576 A (FUHRMANN et al.) 26 March 1991 Column 2 line 52 to column 3 line 2	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
Y		
X	US 6419704 B1 (FERREE) 16 July 2002 Column 2 line 50 to column 3 line 22 Column 7 lines 29 to 50	1-4, 6-11
Y		5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family .</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 28 June 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report - 7 JUL 2004	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer  DAVID MELHUISH Telephone No : (02) 6283 2426	

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6248106 B1 (FERREE) 19 June 2001 Column 2 lines 14 to 19	4, 11
Y	US 6063121 A (XAVIER et al.) 16 May 2000 Column 4 lines 21 to 43	4, 5, 11
Y	US 4759769 A (HEDMAN et al.) 26 July 1988 Column 5 line 45 to column 6 line 15	4, 5, 11
P,A	US 2003/0204271 A1 (FERREE) 30 October 2003 Paragraphs 14 and 15	

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
WO	2000/035382	AU	15682/00	CA	2354169	EP	1139932
		FR	2787014	US	6582466	ZA	200104842
US	6527804	AU	15684/00	CA	2354166	EP	1139934
		FR	2787016	WO	0035384	ZA	200104844
US	5002576	EP	0346269	JP	2111358		
US	6419704	AU	62476/00	AU	63465/01	BR	0004692
		CA	2322350	CA	2377836	CN	1294053
		EP	1108548	EP	1292251	JP	2001105587
		US	6155678	US	6340369	US	6344058
		US	6352557	US	6371990	US	6419702
		US	6432107	US	6454804	US	6491724
		US	6494883	US	6719797	US	2002128630
		US	2002128652	US	2002128713	US	2002128718
		US	2002133231	US	2002151981	US	2002156532
		US	2002156533	US	2002165542	US	2003004574
		US	2003026788	US	2003035035	US	2003040796
		US	2003074076	US	2003078579	US	2003191536
		US	2003195630	US	2003199981	US	2003233097
		US	2003233148	US	2004010318	US	2004024460
		US	2004024461	US	2004030390	US	2004030391
		US	2004030398	US	2004044410	US	2004073311
		US	2004093092	US	2004097980	US	2004111155
		WO	0189429	WO	03090649	WO	03094806
US	6248106	US	2001027319	US	2002133155		
US	6063121	CA	2300613				
US	4759769	EP	0282161	JP	1308557		
US	2003204271	NONE					

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX